

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **REGION III**

## 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029 April 28, 2010

Ms. Alicia Williamson T6-D32 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

> RE: Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Combined License for North Anna Power Station Unit 3 ESP Site – NUREG- 1917.

Dear Ms. Williamson:

In accordance with Section 102(2) (C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2) (C), Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7609, and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations, 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), has reviewed the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the above referenced project. The Final SEIS was prepared to assess the potential environmental impacts that would result from the construction and operation of an additional nuclear power unit (Unit 3) at the North Anna Power Station (NAPS).

Dominion Nuclear North Anna LLC (project sponsor) proposes to construct and operate a Boiling Water Reactor - Unit 3 at its NAPS in Louisa County, Virginia. The proposed unit would use a closed-cycle, combination dry and wet cooling tower system, with makeup water supplied by Lake Anna. The proposed project would also include the construction of a new 15 mile 500-kV transmission line on existing right of way to support the proposed Unit 3.

EPA has reviewed the Final Supplemental EIS. The Final Supplemental EIS has addressed EPA's concerns with the potential cumulative ecological impacts from the thermal discharges from Unit 1 and 2 and the proposed Unit 3. While EPA does not object to the Final Supplemental EIS response to our comments, we observe that, as part of the NPDES permitting process for the North Anna Nuclear Reactor, Dominion and the Commonwealth of Virginia will be required to consider, pursuant to CWA section 316(a) or otherwise, the need for appropriate operational or other control measures during times of potential aquatic thermal stress.

EPA appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the Final Supplemental EIS for the North Anna Project and would be pleased to discuss our concerns regarding the project. Please feel free to contact me or Kevin Magerr at (215) 814-5724, if you wish to discuss our concerns further.

Office of Environmental Programs